

# Professional Development Consortium Fact Sheet

## Vision

In Washington, we work together so that all children start life with a solid foundation for success, based on strong families and a world-class early learning system for all children prenatal through age 12. Accessible, accountable, and developmentally and culturally appropriate, our system partners with families to ensure that every child is healthy, capable and confident in school and in life.

## Mission

Build a comprehensive, integrated, cross sector system of preparation and ongoing professional development for the state's early learning and school age professionals, that include:

- Early Learning Professionals
  - Child Care
  - Early Intervention (e.g. ESIT, Home Visiting)
  - Early Head Start
  - Pre-K (e.g. preschools; ECEAP; and Head Start)
- School Age Care
  - Public Schools
  - Private Academic Schools
- Trainers, Technical Assistance, Coaches, Mentors and Consultants
- Higher Education

## Goal

Ready, successful and empowered early learning and school age care professionals that provide high quality services to young children and their families.

## Guiding Values

*The Washington State's Early Learning and School Age Care Professional Development System Must Be:*

- **Accessible** -- encouraging diversity and minimizing discrepancies in providing professional development resources and diverse opportunities
- **Efficient** -- supportive, cohesive, aligned and seamless, encouraging professional development and compensation
- **High Quality** -- assured by ongoing evaluations at the individual, program and system levels
- **Adaptive** -- dynamic and flexible to meet changing needs of the workforce, children and families
- **User-friendly** -- available to all early learning and school age care professionals in our state
- **Rewarding** -- engagement leads to professionalism and increased compensation

## Elements of Washington's Professional Development System

- Core Knowledge, Qualifications, Credentials and Pathways
- Access and Outreach
- Funding
- Quality Assurance
- Infrastructure, Governance and Financing

